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US adopts National ID: Homeland Security Now In charge of Regulations for all US States Drivers Licenses and Birth Certificates

B. Jonathan Wheeler
December 9, 2004

In a chilling act more reminiscent of the now defunct Soviet Union or the Nazi regime of Adolf Hitler, the United States Congress passed legislation yesterday that requires the States to surrender their regulatory rights over driver's licenses and birth certificates to the Department of Homeland Security.

The massive US Intelligence Reform Bill weighed in at over 3,000 pages and though unenacted by individual Members of either the House or Senate nevertheless passed all of the legislative hurdles needed in order to become law.

President Bush lobbied hard for these provisions, only objecting when Senator Specter attempted to require these same provisions for illegal aliens over which the President opposed. This provision was dropped from the final bill.

Beginning in 2005, the Department of Homeland Security will issue new uniform

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What a "national" ID card might look like

1. Year USID number

3. Photograph

4. Smart card technology

6. 2-D Bar Code

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ty regulations to the States requiring that all Drivers Licenses and Birth Certificates meet minimal Federal Standards with regard to US citizen information, including biometric security provisions.

Beginning in 2005, the Department of Homeland Security will issue new uniform regulations to all Drivers Licenses and Birth Certificates meet minimal Federal Standards with regard to US citizen information, including biometric security provisions.

Birth Certificates meet minimal Federal Standards with regard to US citizen information, including biometric security provisions.

Added to currently existing Federal Laws and Supreme Court rulings, American citizens when born will be issued a Social Security Number that will be included on their Birth Certificates, along with DNA biomarkers. All birth certificates will also be registered in a Federal Government database maintained by the Department of Homeland Security. No child will be allowed enrollment to schools or be entitled to either State of Federal Government benefits provided under the Patriot Act.

any reason and at any time as not being violations of their, the citizens, constitutionally protected rights.

Major Banks and credit card companies have applauded the addition of a National ID system as being important to counter fraud and increasing instances of identity theft. National ID cards with biometric markers will eliminate fraud and bank robberies, along with the potential for citizens to make purchases online and purchase cash. Utilizing The Department of Homeland Security, Credit and Debit cards, which for the first time in US history have surpassed the usage of checks and cash.

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grams without first presenting a certified Homeland Security registered Birth Certificate.

Drivers Licenses will also contain DNA biometric markers and include the holders Social Security Number and be required for receiving and applying for all State and Federal benefits programs. Previous Supreme Court rulings have also upheld State and Federal Law Enforcement authori-

ties right to request Identification from any American citizen, for

any reason and at any time as not being violations of their, the citizens, constitutionally protected rights.

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U.S. Police State in Place & Ready to Roll

Texas Patriot worried last vestiges of privacy will soon be extinct

INDIVIDUAL House colleagues: I'm not just the one. To the ones left, government grows if the post-Sept. 11 era is indeed becoming a police state. The question is: Is longer metora. We are not yet living in a total police state, but it is approaching. The seeds of future terrorism have been sown, and many of our basic protections against government have been undermined. The atmosphere since 9-11 has permeated Congress to create whole new departments and agencies that purpose is make us safer—always at the expense of our liberty. But security and liberty go hand-in-hand. Members of Congress like too many Americans do not understand that a society with no constraints on its government cannot be secure. History proves the success of the wise: The governments become more powerful than the people are free institutions.

Unfortunately, the new intelligence bill passed by Congress comes close to an encroaching police state or imposing the president to a full-blown metora. D. C. Within two years every American will need a "conforming" identification card agency—including NSA and the airport.

Undoubtedly most Americans and members of Congress don't believe America is becoming a police state which is realistic enough. They associate the purpose with military vessels or authorities. Like military patrols, martial law and summary executions.

But we ought to be concerned that we have laid the foundation for tyranny by making the public more docile, more acquiescent & government bullying and more acceptance of arbitrary authority—all in the name of security. Our love in liberty above all has been so diminished that we let the IRS into our home, the would have

been abhorred just a few years ago. We tolerate inconveniences and infringements upon our liberties in a manner that reflects poorly on our great national character of rugged individualism. American history, at least in part, is a history of people who don't like being told what to do. Yet we are increasingly empowering the federal government and its agents to run our lives.

Total fear and crises like 9-11 are used to achieve compliance and obedience, especially when citizens are deluded into believing they are still a free people. The loss of liberty we are assured, will be minimal, short-lived and necessary for security and liberty go hand-in-hand.

Terror, fear and crises like 9-11 are used to achieve obedience, especially when citizens are deluded into believing they are still free.

Many citizens believe that once the war on terror is over restrictions on their liberties will be reversed. But this war is undeclared and open-ended, with no precise enemy and no expressly stated final goal. Terrorism will never be eradicated completely; does this mean future presidents will use extraordinary war powers indefinitely?

Washington provides a vivid illustration of what our future might look like. Visitors to Capitol Hill encounter police barricades, metal detectors, paramilitary officers carrying fully automatic rifles, police dogs, ID checks, and video surveillance cameras. The people are totally disarmed; only the police have guns. Surveillance cameras are everywhere monitoring street activity, subway travel, parks and

federal buildings. There's not much evidence of an open society in Washington, yet most folks do not complain—anything goes if it's for government-provided safety and security.

After all, proponents argue, the government is doing all this to catch the bad guys. If you don't have anything to hide, they ask, what are you so afraid of? The answer is that I'm afraid of losing the last vestiges of privacy that a free society should hold dear. I'm afraid of creating a society where the burden is on citizens to prove their innocence rather than on government to prove wrongdoing. Most of all, I'm afraid of living in a society where a subservient population surrenders its liberties to an all-powerful government.

It may be true that average Americans do not feel intimidated by the encroachment of the police state. Americans remain tolerant of what they see as mere nuisances because they have been deluded into believing total government supervision is necessary and helpful, and because they still enjoy a high level of material comfort. That tolerance may wane, however, as our standard of living falls due to spiraling debt, endless deficit spending at home and abroad, a declining fiat dollar, inflation, higher interest rates and failing entitlement programs.

At that point attitudes toward omnipotent government may change, but the trend toward authoritarianism will be difficult to reverse.

Those who believe a police state can't happen here are poor students of history. Every government, democratic or not, is capable of tyranny. We must understand this if we hope to remain a free people.